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| TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number | 09/924,382 | |
| | Filing Date | 08/08/2001 | |
| | First Named Inventor | CERBIAN | |
| | Group Art Unit | 1743 | |
| | Examiner Name | | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 7 | Attorney Docket Number | MN-9121A |

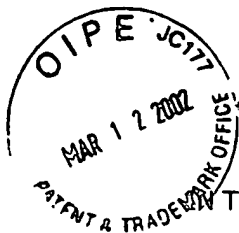
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THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Gebrian et al

Docket: MN-9121A

Filed: August 8, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1743

Serial No.: 09/924,382

Examiner: Unknown

Title: Canister for Inventorying Identification Test Devices
in a Random Access Microbiological Analyzer

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In response to the Notice of Omitted Items mailed January 17, 2002, prior to examination of the above referenced application, please amend the specification as follows. Clean form copies of the amended pages are attached.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 14, line 6, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 14, line 7, please delete the entire sentence, beginning with "FIG. 14A".

Page 14, line 8, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 14, line 9, please delete "FIGs. 15A-M" and substitute -- FIGs. 15A-H and 15J-M -- therefor.

Page 16, line 3, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 36, line 9, please delete "FIG. 14" and substitute -- FIG. 14A -- therefor.

Page 36, line 10, please delete "FIG. 14D" and substitute -- FIG. 14B -- therefor.

Page 37, line 14, please delete "FIGs. 15A-M" and substitute -- FIGs. 15A-H and 15J-M -- therefor.

Page 40, line 4, at the end of the paragraph, please insert the phrase - - (For purposes of clarity, there is no FIG. 15I.) --.

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